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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/750,507	Applicant(s) YAN ET AL.	
	Examiner Usmaan Saeed	Art Unit 2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/02/2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-8, 12-19 and 23-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over **McClean et al. (McClean hereinafter)** (U.S. PG PUB No. 2003/0018506) in view of **Loeb et al. (Loeb hereinafter)** (U.S. Patent No. 6,725,287).

With respect to claim 1, **McClean** teaches **a method for dynamically initializing a view for a streaming database system, comprising:**

“accessing at least one stream of events in real time” as a series of related events are referred to herein as an "event stream." The database 104 may store parameters relating to events, benefits and value streams in a matrix referred to herein as the event matrix (**McClean** Paragraph 0079).

“materializing a view from said stream, wherein said view is dynamically defined from said stream of events received from said streaming database system” as FIG. 11 illustrates an event matrix data structure 400 for storing assumptions (e.g., assumed variables) and their related events in accordance with the present invention when operating in value creation mode. As stated previously, the event matrix 400 stored in the database 104 (FIG. 1A) is a relational database in which assumptions, events, and their related probabilities are collected for both financial and non-financial value streams (**McClean**

Paragraph 0164). Exemplary record fields for the customer object record 908 may include customer information, such as Name, Address, Contact information and other customer details, and event relationship identifiers that operate to dynamically link

appropriate events stored in the event matrix 901 with particular object records stored in the object database 902 (**McLean** Paragraph 0246).

“processing a plurality of view snapshots from said view, each view snapshot corresponding to an individual event within said stream” as FIGS. 25A-C are respective diagrammatic views of object records that may be stored in the above described object database module 902. FIG. 25A is a diagrammatic view of a customer object record 908 that may be stored in the object database 902 (**McLean** Paragraph 0246). FIG. 25B is a diagrammatic view of a product object record 909 that may be stored in the object database 902 (**McLean** Paragraph 0247). FIG. 25C is a diagrammatic view of a financial object record 910 that may be stored in the object database 902 (**McLean** Paragraph 0248). Examiner interprets the diagrammatic views as view snapshots.

“using said view snapshot to generate an initialized view that incorporates new events of said stream” as if a previously anticipated event occurs, then the related assumption may be modified in the matrix 400. The assumption view is shown in FIG. 11. In an "event view," the system 100 focuses first on events and, then, for each event shows the "affected assumptions." The event view of the event matrix 400 is shown in FIG. 13 (**McLean** Paragraph 00164 & 0165). Examiner interprets the modified matrix 400 in fig 13 as initialized view.

Further **McLean** teaches the system 100 (FIG. 1A) which can be configured such that an updated version of any selected outcome display report can be created whenever an event takes place. That is, the process of applying the appropriate

event/object filter and applying the calculation engine can be made to be continuous, updating the result based on each new event. Consequently, the system 100 can therefore be described as capable of producing continuously updated value realization outcome displays (**McClean** Paragraph 0267).

McClean teaches the elements of claim 1 as noted above but does not explicitly teaches “**at least one stream of event is received as output from a streaming database system**” and “**external to the database system and at least one stream of events is received from the steaming database.**”

However, **Loeb** teaches “**at least one stream of event is received as output from a streaming database system**” and “**external to the database system and at least one stream of events is received from the steaming database**” as the engine 40 processes input events 30 from a variety of data sources, including live streams, databases, and other information engines (**Loeb** Col 4, Lines 7-9). Examiner interprets the input to the engine as an output from streaming database which is being fed as an input to the engine 40. The engine 40 is external to the streaming database system.

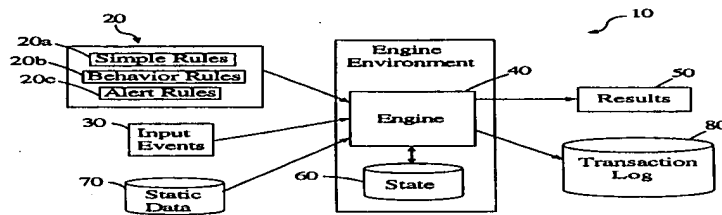


FIGURE 1

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because **Loeb's** teaching would have allowed **McClean** to provide a method and system that captures streaming data and avoids continual retrieval and rehandling and centralized rule management capability that provides powerful reporting, validation, and administration functions.

With respect to claim 2, **McClean** teaches "the method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said initialized view comprises a plurality of row data structures" as Figure 13 (McClean Figure 13).

With respect to claim 3, **McLean** teaches **“the method of Claim 1, wherein said view is a stateful view resulting from a stateful stream, said stateful view having a bounded number of rows”** as Figures 25 A-C (McLean Figure 25 A-C).

With respect to claim 4, **McLean** teaches **“the method of Claim 3, wherein each of said view snapshots of said stateful view comprise a state of said stateful view including events existent at said materializing of said stateful view”** as FIGS. 25A-C are respective diagrammatic views of object records that may be stored in the above described object database module 902. FIG. 25A is a diagrammatic view of a customer object record 908 that may be stored in the object database 902 (**McLean** Paragraph 0246). FIG. 25B is a diagrammatic view of a product object record 909 that may be stored in the object database 902 (**McLean** Paragraph 0247). FIG. 25C is a diagrammatic view of a financial object record 910 that may be stored in the object database 902 (**McLean** Paragraph 0248). These view snapshots of stateful views include events from the materialized view/matrix. **“and events accessed after said materializing of said stateful view at a particular time”** as figure 11 and 13 (Figure 11 & 13). These figures show materialized views at time t1 and t.

With respect to claim 5, **McLean** teaches **“the method of Claim 2, wherein said view is a stateless view resulting from a stateless stream, said stateless view having an unbounded number of rows”** as Figure 13 (**McLean** Figure 13).

With respect to claim 6, **McLean** teaches **“the method of Claim 5, wherein each of said view snapshots of said stateless view comprise a state of said stateless view including events existent at said materializing of said stateless view, including a last event processed during said materializing of said stateless view”** as Figure 13 (**McLean** Figure 13). Stateless view in figure 13 comprises events from materializing of view in figure 11. Examiner interprets the event 1-3 as last event to be processed in the view.

With respect to claim 7, **McLean** teaches **“the method of Claim 1, further comprising: processing a plurality of view snapshots by maintaining a sequence of a plurality of preceding current view snapshots”** as Figure 23 (**McLean** Figure 23). Object database 902 contains plurality of snapshots. Examiner interprets past events from event matrix 901 containing preceding view snapshots in the database 902.

With respect to claim 8, **McLean** teaches **“the method of Claim 7, further comprising: applying a batch set of events to said processing of said view snapshots, wherein each event of said batch set has a corresponding one of said view snapshots”** as Figure 24 A-B & 25 A-C (**McLean** Figure 24 A-B & 25 A-C). Examiner interprets 906a future events and 906b past events in figure 24A as batch of events. These events are being applied to and has a corresponding view snapshot as shown in figures 25 A-C.

Claims 12-19 and 23-30 are same as claims 1-8 and are rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claims 9-10, 20-21, and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Mclean et al.** (U.S. PGPub No. 2003/0018506) in view of **Loeb et al.** (U.S. Patent No. 6,725,287) as applied to claims 1-8, 13-19 and 23-30 above in view of **Zwilling et al.** (**Zwilling** hereinafter) (U.S. PGPub No. 2004/0267828).

With respect to claim 9, **Mclean** teaches “**the method of Claim 1, wherein said generating of said initialized view is configured to accomplish a recovery of a view state**” as FIG. 3 illustrates a flow diagram 300 showing determination of outcomes in value creation mode based upon different assumptions. For example, the CPU 102 can be controlled to determine the outcomes 226 (FIG. 2) from the groups of scenarios 220 (FIG. 2) in accordance with the flow diagram 300 of FIG. 3. In a state 302, data relevant to the various scenarios may be retrieved from the database 104 (FIG. 1A) to the CPU 102 (FIG. 2). Then, in a state 304, the data for the assumptions and their related events may be assembled into scenarios (**Mclean** Paragraph 0092).

Mclean teaches the elements of claim 9 as noted above but does not explicitly teaches “**recovery of a view.**”

However, **Zwilling** discloses “**recovery of a view**” as Recovering a Database View. When the database server restarts after it is shut down (either normally or abnormally), the database view must be reinitialized. In order to do so, the side page

tables, which have been stored in memory, must be reinitialized (**Zwilling** Paragraph 0057).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because **Zwilling's** teaching would have allowed **McLean and Loeb** to provide a way to view a database which can be created quickly, and is persistent after a database server restart.

With respect to claim 10, **McLean** teaches "the method of Claim 1, wherein said generating of said initialized view is configured to accomplish a re-enabling of a view after a disabling of a view" as if a previously anticipated event occurs, then the related assumption may be modified in the matrix 400. The assumption view is shown in FIG. 11. In an "event view," the system 100 focuses first on events and, then, for each event shows the "affected assumptions." The event view of the event matrix 400 is shown in FIG. 13 (**McLean** Paragraph 00164 & 0165). Examiner interprets the modified matrix 400 in fig 13 as initialized view.

McLean teaches the elements of claim 10 as noted above but does not explicitly teach "re-enabling of a view after a disabling of a view."

However, **Zwilling** discloses "re-enabling of a view after a disabling of a view" as Recovering a Database View. When the database server restarts after it is shut down (either normally or abnormally), the database view must be reinitialized. In order to do so, the side page tables, which have been stored in memory, must be

reinitialized (**Zwilling** Paragraph 0057). Examiner interprets the reinitialized view as re-enabled view.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because **Zwilling's** teaching would have allowed **McClean and Loeb** to provide a ways to view a database which can be created quickly, and is persistent after a database server restart.

Claims 20-21 and 31-32 are same as claims 9-10 and are rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Claims 11, 22 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over **McClean et al.** (U.S. PGPub No. 2003/0018506) in view of **Loeb et al.** (U.S. Patent No. 6,725,287) as applied to claims 1-8, 13-19 and 23-30 above in view of **Homayoun Yousefi'zadeh** (**Homayoun** hereinafter) (U.S. PGPub No. 2004/0030739).

With respect to claim 11, **McClean** teaches "**the method of Claim 1, wherein said generating of said initialized view is configured to accomplish a load balancing of a view maintenance process**" as if a previously anticipated event occurs, then the related assumption may be modified in the matrix 400. The assumption view is shown in FIG. 11. In an "event view," the system 100 focuses first on events and, then, for each event shows the "affected assumptions." The event view

of the event matrix 400 is shown in FIG. 13 (Mclean Paragraph 00164 & 0165).

Examiner interprets the modified matrix 400 in fig 13 as initialized view.

Mclean teaches the elements of claim 11 as noted above but does not explicitly teaches, **“to accomplish a load balancing of a view maintenance process.”**

However, **Homayoun** discloses **“to accomplish a load balancing of a view”** as to one of said multiple database servers being based on a metric such as a load balancing scheme along with a remote replication scheme to preserve the respective view of data of said multiple database servers (**Homayoun** Paragraph 0010).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because **Homayoun’s** teaching would have allowed **Mclean and Loeb** to provide specific load-balancing techniques for assigning queries to respective multiple database servers 24, to, and to balance respective loads of the multiple database servers 24.

Claims 22 and 33 are same as claims 11 and are rejected for the same reasons as applied hereinabove.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

See above rejections for response to the arguments.

Claims must be given the broadest reasonable interpretation during examination and limitations appearing in the specification but not recited in the claim are not read into the claim (See M.P.E.P. 2111 [R-I]).

Conclusion

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular paragraphs, figures, columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant, in preparing the responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Usmaan Saeed whose telephone number is (571)272-4046. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571)272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Usmaan Saeed
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2166



Hosain Alam
Supervisory Patent Examiner

US
December 13, 2007